

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY (CP)
G-2 STRATEGIC SERVICES SECTION
APO 758 US ARMY

JJC/jwdg

15 April 1945

SUBJECT: Critique of ANZIO Intelligence.

TO : Mr Henry B. Hyde, Station "P".

(S)(1)
(S)(3)
1. [redacted] travelled to the front in 24 hours from STUTTGART going by way of TUBINGEN, ROTHENBURG, HORB, FREUDENSTATT, MURGTAL, WEISENBACH.

2. During the 24 hours he saw nothing definitely worthy of reporting. He mentions that he saw disorganized groups going in direction north--south and says that this is true for all movements in the area. He saw almost no movement, however. He mentions that he encountered 5 columns of prisoners totalling about 2000 prisoners in all. He reports a position being formed north of STUTTGART. This positive info on STUTTGART is of course known and in fact we are bumping into the positions. Agent says he has travelled continually in the region of STUTTGART and never saw armored troops or a single tank.

(S)(1)
(S)(3)
a. It is possible of course that [redacted] made this entire trip and saw nothing worthy of note. There is an intangible lack of detail in his information on points which would be interesting, which is a trifle upsetting but is not necessarily susceptible of pinning down for so short a period of time--a period which may have had especially non-note-worthy events. It can be definitely said, however, that there is no meat in the material which he gave us for intelligence or operations to get their teeth into.

(S)(1)
(S)(3)
3. For the month and a half which [redacted] spent in the general region of ULM and STUTTGART, Arthur reports only that he had "never seen SS troops pass through ULM in any quantity." He will not pin down as to number. He has not personally seen, he says, before the 5th of April any efforts to defend the line of the Danube that passes through ULM. (This does not accord with what which seem likely and has been reported by agent [redacted] on 5 April who says that on 1 Apr he saw flak ^{installations} ~~preparations~~ around the Danube. Again there is nothing conclusive about the somewhat scanty information available from [redacted] as rebuttal. The great point is that there is so little detail of any sort offered by [redacted].

4. Concerning a redoubt he says that he has never heard any talk of such a move.

5. Asked concerning depots, factories, barracks full of soldiers, etc, he had no information to give, saying that all dumps had been moved from the region ~~near~~ before he ~~left~~ reached the ULM region.

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6. [redacted] afforded only one positive installation which he said surprised him by being as yet unbombed. This is a combination school, radio factory, and geonometry center to the NE of ESSLINGEN at S-171178. The barracks or buildings are 2 to 3 stories high and there are 9 of them in all. The entire installation covers an area of about 150 square meters. I showed great interest in this report whereupon [redacted] told me the following: "To the east of the factory and immediately joining thereto in the corner of the road is a prison camp." "There is a plaque in front of the camp which gives the number, ~~and I~~ not remember." He does not know how the buildings of the installation are utilized i.e. if the most westerly argonio, or factory, or school, etc. Moreover, prisoners are working in the factory. Moreover, in the factory there are employed a certain number of French workers. [redacted] points out that in this region 60 to 70% of factory labor is French. [redacted] does not know how many people are employed in the factory, nor ~~how~~ has he visited the interior. He knows that prisoners work there but has no idea how many.

a. I confess that the presentation of this information made me extremely suspicious. The objections to the bombing were presented as soon as I had shown an interest, and they were presented in a curiously cumulative way. [redacted] vagueness about such details as to the number of the prison camp also gives me pause.

7. In short, there is nothing which [redacted] has said (with the exception of the tainted report on the factory) which is obviously false. The factor which one cannot reconcile is that a man as intelligent as [redacted] and undoubtedly is and with the net of chains which he maintains are pouring intelligence into him has not been able to give more concrete military information. One can say categorically that it is impossible to have seen and remembered as little as [redacted] has seen and remembered. Accordingly, I would say that for some reason unknown to me, [redacted] is not giving all of the information he knows. I would recommend that he be de-briefed at great length concerning reports allegedly flooding him from his sources some of which he must have read and items of which must still stick in his memory. Ditto for what he has himself observed. With this added material one could make a balanced estimate of [redacted] value and trustworthiness from an intelligence viewpoint. Thus far he rates zero on both counts.


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